

Attorney Docket No. 24222
Serial No. 09/587,971

In re Application of

Subraman Rao CHERUKURI

Art Unit: 1761

Serial No.: 09/587,971

Examiner: H. Pratt

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ATTACHMENT A - MARKED-UP COPY OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 2 and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 14 and 20 as follows:

1. (Amended) An encapsulated product, comprising:
 - a) at least one active ingredient selected from the group consisting of: flavors, sweeteners, spices, herbal ingredients, vitamins, minerals, and mixtures thereof;
 - b) at least one compressible material; and
 - c) at least one lubricating material;
 - d) wherein said product is in the form of a caplet having a diameter from about 1 millimeter to about 7 millimeters and a length from about 1 millimeter to about 7 millimeters.
3. (Amended) The encapsulated product of claim [2] 1 wherein said active ingredient is at least one flavor.
6. (Amended) The encapsulated product of claim [2] 1 wherein said active ingredient is a blend of sweeteners.
7. (Amended) The encapsulated product of claim [2] 1 wherein

the active ingredient is a sweetener or a blend of sweeteners in an amount equivalent to one teaspoon of sugar.

9. (Twice Amended) The encapsulated product of claim 1 wherein said compressible material is selected from the group consisting of sugar, polyols, mineral salts, dextrose, [sugar,] sorbitol, isomalt, maltitol, xylitol, lactitol, calcium phosphate, and mixtures thereof.

14. (Amended) A method for preparing an encapsulated product comprising the steps of:

a) blending an active ingredient selected from the group consisting of: flavors, sweeteners, spices, herbal ingredients, vitamins, minerals, and mixtures thereof with a compressible material to form a compressible mixture;

b) mixing said compressible mixture with a lubricating material to form a final mixture; and

c) compressing said final mixture into a caplet having a diameter from about 1 millimeter to about 7 millimeters and a length from about 1 millimeter to about 7 millimeters.

20. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein said compressible material is selected from the group consisting of sugar, polyols, mineral salts, dextrose, [sugar,] sorbitol, isomalt, maltitol, xylitol, lactitol, calcium phosphate, and mixtures thereof.